

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. CLEVELAND DONALD, JR., CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST AND EDUCATOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Cleveland Donald, Jr., a civil rights advocate, community activist and pioneering educator. Dr. Donald will be largely remembered as the second African-American student to graduate from the University of Mississippi, but he was also a reflection of all that we hope and expect our community leaders to be.

Born April 10, 1946, in Newton, Mississippi, Cleveland Donald, Jr. was the oldest of five children born to Rosia and Cleveland Donald, Sr. As a student at Brinkley High School, he excelled academically and enrolled in Tougaloo College when he was 17. After attending Tougaloo for one year, he enrolled at the University of Mississippi in 1964, and graduated in 1966 with a history degree. He would become the second African-American there to graduate and the last to enter under Federal Protection.

Dr. Donald was that rare individual who dedicated his entire life's work to education. He obtained multiple academic degrees from prestigious universities such as Ole Miss, Harvard, and Cornell; where he obtained his doctorate. As a college professor, he taught in universities across the country and worked in the private sector on projects related to higher education. He was an excellent role model for young adults, a leader to fellow faculty members and a shining example of perseverance in order to achieve your dreams and goals.

A man of deep conviction, Dr. Donald became involved in the civil rights movement while attending Tougaloo and was arrested multiple times for protesting the racial injustices of the era. He helped establish a black studies program at the University of Mississippi in addition to working with former Governor William Winter on programs at the University of Mississippi for racial reconciliation.

Dr. Donald's legacy will be carried on through his son, Cleveland Donald III, and his daughters Krista Donald and Toyetta Donald. He has four brothers; Judge John Donald, Major General James Donald, Reverend Larry Donald, and Master Sergeant Howard Donald.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Cleveland Donald, Jr., an educator and civil rights advocate who found his lifework in the work that he loved.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. KEVIN GUERIN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Kevin Guerin of Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey. Mr. Guerin will be honored as the 2012 Irishman of the Year by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Volunteer Patrick

Torphy Division 2 of Monmouth County. Mr. Guerin is an outstanding leader and member of the community whose contributions have continued to promote, preserve and uphold Irish heritage, as well as embodying the AOH motto of friendship, unity, and Christian charity. His actions and dedication are undoubtedly worthy of this body's recognition.

Mr. Kevin Guerin was born in Miltown Malbay in County Clare, Ireland, a region commonly known for its traditional Irish music. As the second youngest child of 11 siblings, Mr. Guerin attended St. Joseph's Vocational School in Miltown Malbay and received his certification in carpentry. In addition to his professional career, Mr. Guerin is an accomplished musician and earned the title of All Ireland Tin Whistle Champion. After immigrating to the United States in 1973, he continued to pursue his passion for music. Mr. Guerin began playing with several Irish bands throughout New York and New Jersey, ultimately starting his own band, "The Biddy Early's," which was later named "Round The House."

Mr. Guerin has admirably served on numerous boards for various organizations throughout Monmouth County, New Jersey. He is a valued member of the Knights of Columbus Bayshore Council #2858 and continues to dedicate countless hours to the Irish Federation of Monmouth County and the Frank McGovern Association of Newark. Mr. Guerin is a hardworking member of the John F. Cryan Association of South Orange, the Irish American Society of Union and is committed to upholding the mission of the Joseph Nugent Association of Elizabeth and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of the Jersey Shore. Kevin is the founding member of the famous Hoboken St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Jersey Shore Irish Festival of which he served as Chairman in 1999. As a result of his impressive actions, Mr. Guerin was recognized by the Irish American Fenian Society in 1987, Jersey Shore INA in 1996, the Order of St. Brendan in 1999 and is the highly deserving recipient of the Patrick Torphy Award in 2008. Kevin and his wife Kathleen are the proud parents of Fiona, Delia, Mike and the late Siobhan. They are also grandparents to Quinn Morgan.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mr. Kevin Guerin upon receiving the 2012 Irishman of the Year award and also for his leadership and service to the Irish American community.

HONORING LEANNA COSSMAN FOR HER DEDICATION TO CIVIC SERVICE

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Leanna Cossman of Urbana, Illinois. In February she will be making her sixth trip to assist people in Haiti, which has recently been devastated by natural disasters and disease.

Mrs. Cossman's first journey to Haiti occurred shortly after the terrible earthquake in 2010. She returned to the country for a second time not long after to continue providing

care for the hundreds of thousands still struggling. When Cholera began to spread among the refugees, Mrs. Cossman made another trip to help the sick and dying. She made two more trips in 2011, assisting relief workers with the nursing skills that she has practiced as a certified nurse for schools in Urbana.

I would be remiss if I did not thank Jewish Healthcare International for sponsoring Mrs. Cossman's upcoming trip, as well as many others. Their organization and the people who volunteer for them have made an incredible impact in the lives of thousands of people.

Mrs. Cossman's selflessness and dedication to providing help and care for others serves as an incredible example for people across our great nation, and I am truly honored to serve as a representative for such a caring individual. I want to personally thank Mrs. Cossman and her family, and let them know that her story is an inspiration not only to myself, but to all the members of Congress.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD POST ELECTION DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights, which I chair, examined U.S. policy options for dealing with the ongoing crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, one of the priority countries in the United States' Africa policy as identified by the Administration and as confirmed by Congressional legislation and oversight over the past several years. This country is two-thirds the size of Western Europe and borders nine African countries. Its problems extend well beyond its borders.

Prior to yesterday, the Subcommittee last examined the situation in the DRC in a hearing in March of last year, when the storm clouds were gathering in advance of the November elections. The DRC is now struggling with the aftermath of those elections. Opposition political parties and civil society, especially the Catholic Church, appear unwilling to accept the results of the presidential and legislative elections. Opposition leader Étienne Tshisekedi received 32 percent of the votes, but he believes he was cheated out of votes that would have made him the winner in the elections. He has staged a presidential swearing-in ceremony and announced that he will form a government. He also has called on supporters to march with him to government headquarters. However, government armed forces have surrounded his home since the presidential results were announced on December 9, and even his aides have been prevented from meeting with him.

Suspicion persists that this election was manipulated in favor of incumbent President Joseph Kabila. The Carter Center, which observed the vote, as well as the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) and most of DRC's civil society, all cast serious doubt on the announced outcome of the election. According to the Carter Center, ballots were missing in some areas, while results for Kabila in other areas were